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## DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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April 21, 1995

Mr. Dean Fowler  
Spokane Utilities  
W. 1026 Broadway Avenue  
Spokane, WA 99260

Dear Mr. Fowler:

RE: Colbert Landfill/County's Minutes of March 20 Meeting/Ecology Review of  
3rd Quarter, 1994 Remedial Action Status Report/ Operations Reporting

Minutes:

Thank you for providing the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) with the minutes from the March 20, 1995 meeting. After review of the minutes, we find them to be well prepared and accurate, for the greatest part. There are two small items that need clarification. The first concerns Section 5, Migration of Contaminants East and North of the Landfill. The paragraph discusses low production in domestic wells east and northeast of the landfill, and then indefinitely implies domestic pumping as a possible mechanism for contaminant transport. We need to characterize the transport mechanism; hopefully the sampling effort will shed some light.

Our second item for clarification is the ability for existing monitoring systems to detect contamination around the extraction well systems. Ecology agrees that the coverage around the west system appears adequate under existing hydraulic conditions, but we note that those conditions will change. Regarding the south system, we are not yet convinced of coverage, and trust sampling data will be of benefit. Once again, we thank Spokane County for the minutes and commend the County for undertaking the supplemental sampling.

Review of 3rd Quarter Status Report:

We deferred our comments until after the March 20 meeting. We find the report to be very good and are pleased with the quality and quantity of data presentation. In future reports, we ask that the computer model not be used for compliance purposes. We have enclosed a memo from our data manager regarding a few clarifications needed in the computerized

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format of reporting. Please direct technical questions to the data manager. As a final note, we must establish a reporting deadline that will satisfy both the intent of Consent Decree and the County's reporting constraints.

Operations Reporting:

The County's reporting format for operation of the extraction system is well organized, but not complete. In the near future we should discuss the format and depth of reporting that will satisfy all parties. Perhaps we can make this the topic of our next phone conference.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact me at (360)407-7239.

Sincerely,



Michael Kuntz  
Managing Hydrogeologist  
Toxics Cleanup Program

MK:gj  
Enclosure

cc: Neil Thompson, EPA